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Letter dated 4 January 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to enclose herewith the final communiqué of the Conference of the Interior Ministers of the Neighbouring Countries of Iraq, held in Tehran on 30 November and 1 December 2004 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mehdi **Danesh-Yazdi**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 4 January 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

"In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful"

Final communiqué of the Conference of the Interior Ministers of the Neighbouring Countries of Iraq

Tehran, 30 November-1 December 2004

Upon the invitation extended by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the first Conference of the Interior Ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Republic of Turkey, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Republic of Iraq, the State of Kuwait and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations was held in Tehran on 30 November and 1 December 2004, in solidarity with the people of Iraq who are now suffering from difficult conditions resulting from the current lack of security and the critical economic situation of this country. Based on their consultations and deliberations in this meeting, the interior ministers:

1. Stressed the provisions of United Nations Security Council resolution 1546 (2004) and the statements of the previous meetings of Iraq's neighbouring countries, including the recent sessions in Cairo and Sharm El Shaykh, and stressed also the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Iraq as well as the right of the people of Iraq to a secure and stable life.

2. Welcomed all the steps taken by the United Nations and the Interim Government of Iraq in the direction of preparing the ground for the full participation of all Iraqi groups, parties and all the segments of the population of Iraq in the political process by holding general elections before the end of January 2005, as envisaged in United Nations Security Council resolution 1546 (2004). They stressed the leading role of the United Nations in this regard and expressed their readiness to assist in the electoral process both by encouraging the Iraqis and facilitating the voting by the Iraqi citizens residing in their respective countries in coordination with the United Nations and the Interim Government of Iraq.

3. Stressed the need for enhancement of mutual cooperation on border security, border entrances and cross-border movements among their respective countries within the framework of the provisions of the existing bilateral agreements.

4. Supported the fight against the illegal movement of capital supporting terrorist activities and the smuggling of goods, arms and narcotic drugs across their borders.

5. Condemned the terrorist acts against people, humanitarian institutions, foreign workers and transporters, diplomatic missions and international organizations as well as the sacrilege of the religious Holy places in Iraq. They stressed the need for exchange of information and intelligence among their countries

with the aim of controlling and preventing the movement of terrorists, subversive and other illegal elements to and from Iraq.

6. Stressed the need to end the presence and activities of terrorist groups in Iraq collaborating with the criminal regime of Saddam and now endangering the security of Iraq and its neighbouring countries, and asked for urgent and proper measures in cooperation with the neighbouring countries by the Interim Government of Iraq in this respect.

7. Expressed their readiness to provide training and equipment upon the request of Iraq to the Iraqi police force and border guards in order to assist the Iraqi Government in the restoration of stability in Iraq and to play a more effective role in the protection and control of the borders within the framework of United Nations Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreements.

8. Emphasized the positive impact of economic development and reconstruction of Iraq on the restoration of security and stability in this country and expressed their readiness to play a more substantial role in the Iraqi reconstruction process, benefiting from the vast economic resources and capabilities inherent in the neighbouring countries. They welcomed the commitments made in this regard by creditors in the Paris Club to reduce Iraq's debt.

9. Expressed their sincere appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Iran for the excellent arrangements and generous hospitality, which assured the success of their first conference. They welcomed the invitation by the Minister of the Interior of Turkey to host their next meeting. They will be informed of the mechanisms adopted and measures provided by neighbouring countries to pursue their decisions.